

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9566
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK
SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS ON GENEVA TALKS, JANUARY 15-17

1. SUNDAY TELEGRAPH CORRESPONDENT DAVID ADAMSON IN JOHANNESBURG: "THE BRITISH ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT SEEMED CLOSE TO THE END OF THE ROAD YESTERDAY WHEN A MEETING TO TAKE PLACE (BETWEEN RICHARD AND PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS) IN MAPUTO...WAS ABRUPTLY CALLED OFF."

2. TIMES CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL KNIPE IN SALISBURY: "THERE ARE HOPES IN RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES THAT WHEN...RICHARD RETURNS TO SALISBURY, HE MAY BE BRINGING NEW COMPROMISE PROPOSALS FOR A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. WHILE THIS MAY APPEAR UNLIKELY, RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT SOURCES ARE CLINGING TO THE HOPE THAT BRITAIN MIGHT GIVE
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SOME BACKING TO MR. SMITH'S EFFORTS TO REACH A SETTLEMENT WITH 'MODERATE' AFRICANS."

3. DAILY TELEGRAPH CORRESPONDENT CHRISTOPHER MUNNION IN SALISBURY: "PRESSURE ON MR. SMITH TO OPEN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH BISHOP MUZOREWA IS MOUNTING IN SALISBURY FOLLOWING THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT'S APPARENT

WRITE-OFF OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE."

4. FINANCIAL TIMES CORRESPONDENT QUENTIN PEEL IN JOHANNESBURG: "FEARS ARE GROWING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA THAT THE CURRENT BRITISH INITIATIVE FOR A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT HAS LOST ITS MOMENTUM AND THAT MR. IVOR RICHARD, CHAIRMAN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, MAY HAVE TO RETURN TO LONDON WITHOUT HAVING SECURED A RESUMPTION.

THIS VIEW WAS REINFORCED BY MR. IAN SMITH, RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER, WHO SAID OVER THE WEEKEND THAT HE THOUGHT THE MISSION NOW SEEMED TO BE 'A DEAD DUCK.'"

5. DAILY TELEGRAPH WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT NICHOLAS CONFORT: "AMERICA SHOULD START TRAINING BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS TO RUN THEIR COUNTRY UNDER MAJORITY RULE, MR. ANDREW YOUNG, AMERICA'S NEXT AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, SAID YESTERDAY. 'THERE IS A WHOLE RANGE OF THINGS THAT CAN BE DONE THAT MY STAFF IS WORKING ON ALREADY.'

'THERE SHOULD BE A PLAN, RIGHT NOW, TO TRAIN LEADERSHIP TO BE ABLE TO RUN SOUTH AFRICA ONCE MAJORITY RULE COMES" MR. YOUNG, A BLACK CONGRESSMAN, SAID IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW.'

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